

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(Currently amended)** An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence of nucleotides encoding ~~or complementary to a sequence encoding~~ a mammalian transcription factor comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 95% ~~75%~~ identity to SEQ ID NO:8 ~~(human SOM) or SEQ ID NO:16 (murine SOM) after optimal alignment.~~

2. **(Currently amended)** The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 wherein the molecule has a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of: SEQ ID NO: 7 ~~(human som)~~, SEQ ID NO: 15 ~~(murine som)~~, and a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes to a fully complementary sequence of ~~capable of hybridizing to~~ SEQ ID NO: 7 ~~or~~, SEQ ID NO:15 ~~or a complementary form of any of the foregoing under high stringency conditions of~~ (0.1X SSC, 0.1% w/v SDS at 65°C).

3. **(Previously Presented)** The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 encoding a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NO: 8 or SEQ ID NO: 16.

4. **(Currently amended)** The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 7 and SEQ ID NO: 15.

5. **(Previously Presented)** The isolated nucleic acid molecule of Claim 1 comprising the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 7.

6. **(Previously Presented)** The isolated nucleic acid molecule of Claim 1 comprising the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 15.

7. **(Withdrawn)** A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of a genetic or physiological disorder, comprising:

an isolated nucleic acid molecule according to Claim 1 in an amount effective to treat said genetic or physiological disorder.

8-11. **(Canceled)**

12. **(Withdrawn)** A method for treating spinabifida or other physiological or genetic disorders in a patient, comprising

administering to said patient an isolated nucleic acid molecule according to Claim 1 in an amount effective for the treatment of spinabifida or other physiological or genetic disorder.

13-15. **(Canceled)**

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16. **(Withdrawn)** The method of Claim 12, wherein said method is for treating spinabifida.

17-21. **(Canceled)**